

# DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

## news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife

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### "FOREIGN GAME INVESTIGATION" BOOKLET ISSUED BY SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

The story of the Federal Government's program to study foreign wildlife species and select a few for trial introductions in cooperating States has been released by the Interior Department's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife in a booklet entitled "Foreign Game Investigation."

"Since the Program was established in 1948," the booklet says, "26 species or subspecies of foreign game birds have been recommended for trial in one part or another of the United States. Over 150 others have been investigated briefly and dropped from further consideration because of characteristics that might make them unsuited to American conditions."

The program is based on requests for assistance from State fish and game commissions after State biologists have appraised game-deficient habitats and determined that new species are needed. When the necessary information is in hand, Federal biologists are assigned to study game species occupying similar habitats and climates in foreign countries.

Mention is made in the booklet of eight species that currently show promise of acclimatization. They are: Afghan white-winged pheasant, Western Iranian black-necked pheasant, Japanese green pheasant, South Korean ring-necked pheasant, Black francolin, Gray francolin, Turkish chukar and Chinese bamboo partridge.

Author of the 16-page booklet is Dr. Gardiner Bump, who has headed the investigation program since its inception.

The frequent failures, few successes, and problems resulting from some unplanned introductions are reviewed. The need for and organization of a foreign game investigation program is discussed.

The report may be obtained for 15 cents from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

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